

Information Services Board Briefing Paper on the Information Technology Decision Package Prioritization Criteria

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Description

The Office of Financial Management (OFM) and the Department of Information Services (DIS) will discuss the potential criteria for evaluating and prioritizing IT Decision Packages for 2003-05 biennium.

Background

One of the goals of Portfolio Management has been the integration of agency Information Technology (IT) planning with the budget process. This has been supported by the inclusion of portfolio management in the OFM budget instructions. In the instructions for the 2001-03 biennium, agencies were required to analyze the oversight level of their IT decision packages by employing the Information Services Board (ISB) portfolio management severity and risk matrices. Agencies with IT decision packages that rated oversight level 2 (DIS) or level 3 (ISB) were required to submit a copy of the packages to DIS for formal review and technical analysis by their assigned senior technology management consultant.

To ensure the coordination of projects and to further assist OFM budget analysts in evaluating IT decision packages, the instructions for the 2003-05 biennium ask that agencies also forward IT decision packages rated oversight level 1 (agency) to DIS for informal review and technical analysis by their assigned senior technology management consultant.

As part of the 2001-03 budget, the Legislature created a technology and a digital government pool for funding IT projects. OFM was assigned responsibility with assistance from DIS for the allocation of funds from these pools to agencies. OFM and DIS jointly developed and applied criteria for the evaluation and prioritization of prospective projects that were submitted by agencies in a process similar to the IT decision package process.

Since DIS will now be reviewing all IT decision packages, OFM is requesting the assistance of the ISB in developing criteria for the prioritization of the packages for funding.

Status

The IT decision package budget instructions for the 2003-05 biennium included the following criteria that DIS will use to evaluate IT investments. All, or some of these criteria, could be used for prioritizing investments or decision packages:

- Is the investment consistent with statewide and agency portfolio and business objectives?
- How well does the investment support the objectives of digital government?
- Does the agency present a sound business and technical case for the investment?
- Is the investment technically feasible?
- Are the estimates for costs, benefits, and schedule reasonable?
- How feasible is the approach to managing the investment?
- Does the investment demonstrate a high probability of contributing to the success of the agency?

- Does the investment demonstrate a high probability of contributing to and/or benefiting from an enterprise-wide solution?

- Has the proposal been coordinated with other state agencies' similar data?

Issues

What criteria should be used to prioritize IT decision packages for the 2003-05 biennium?

Recommendation

This briefing is for informational purposes to solicit ISB input concerning the criteria that should be used for prioritizing IT decision packages.